

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR12 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Ab-initio calculation of energy level alignment and vacuum level shift at CuPc/C60 interfaces¹ NA SAI, XIAOYANG ZHU, JAMES CHELIKOWSKY, University of Texas at Austin, KEVIN LEUNG, Sandia National Laboratory — The alignment of the donor and acceptor energy levels is of crucial importance for organic photovoltaic performance. We investigate the interfacial electronic structure and energy level alignment of copper phthalocyanine (CuPc)/fullerene (C60) using ab-initio density functional theory calculations including van der Waals interactions and hybrid density functionals. We show that energy level alignment critically depends on the standing-up and lying-down orientation of the CuPc molecules relative to C60 at the interface. We calculate the magnitude of the interface dipole at different molecular orientations and compare them to the vacuum level shift observed in photoemission spectroscopy. The validity of existing theoretical models which invoke charge transfer on this organic interface will be discussed in light of our predictions. Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.

¹This work is supported as part of the program “Understanding charge separation and transfer at interfaces in energy materials”, an Energy Frontier Research Center funded by the U.S. DOE Office of Basic Energy Sciences under Award number DE-SC0001091.

Na Sai
University of Texas at Austin

Date submitted: 11 Nov 2011

Electronic form version 1.4